TRENDS

A3275-2

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, October 19, 1989 -- Carloadings* originated on major U.S. railroads during the week ended October 14 totaled 351,055, down 1.4 percent from the comparable week of 1988 but 2.2 percent above the preceding week of 1989, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) reported today. Both the current week and the corresponding 1988 week included the Columbus Day holiday. The railroads reporting account for approximately 94 percent of all rail carloads.

Carloadings originated were down 0.3 percent in the West and 2.4 percent in the East, compared with a year ago.

From the comparable 1988 week, loadings of coal were up 7,515 cars (5.9 percent). Loadings of metallic ores were down 4,928 cars (22.1 percent). Motor vehicle and equipment loadings were off 2,084 cars (10.2 percent).

Cumulative carloadings for the first 41 weeks of 1989 totaled 13,673,962, down 1.2 percent from the comparable period a year ago.

Intermodal traffic on Class I railroads -- which is not included in the carloadings -- totaled 125,075 trailers and/or containers for the week ended October 14, up 5.0 percent from the comparable week of 1988.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 41 weeks of 1989 was 4,668,822 trailers and/or containers, 3.1 percent above the comparable 1988 total.

The AAR also estimated that ton-miles carried on major railroads in the week ended October 14 totaled 20.2 billion, 0.5 percent above the comparable week of 1988. Cumulative volume for the first 41 weeks of 1989 was an estimated 785.3 billion ton-miles, down 0.2 percent from the comparable period of last year.

**Because of changes in reporting, 1989 figures are not comparable to previous years, except for 1988, which has been restated for purposes of comparison with 1989.*

(more)

WEEKLY TRAFFIC OF MAJOR RAILROADS
FOR THE WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 14, 1989

CARLOADS ORIGINATED, BY COMMODITY GROUP

COMMODITY	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 14, 1989	COMPARISON WITH SAME WEEK OF 1988	CHANGE	COMPARISON WITH PRECEDING WEEK	CHANGE
Grain	29,439	31,083	-5.3 %	26,775	9.9 %
Farm Products, Ex. Grain	2,889	2,820	2.4	2,468	17.1
Metallic Ores	17,353	22,281	-22.1	16,267	6.7
Coal	134,432	126,917	5.9	132,344	1.6
Crushed Stone, Sand & Gravel	18,460	18,703	-1.3	18,040	2.3
Nonmetallic Minerals	10,404	10,996	-5.4	10,417	-.1
Grain Mill Products	9,886	9,986	-1.0	10,052	-1.7
Food & Kindred Products	8,837	9,370	-5.7	8,826	.1
Primary Forest Products	9,334	10,033	-7.0	8,956	4.2
Lumber & Wood Products	6,093	6,939	-12.2	6,114	-.3
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	10,292	10,617	-3.1	10,284	.1
Chemicals	27,450	28,280	-2.9	27,908	-1.6
Petroleum Products	5,430	4,753	14.2	5,236	3.7
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	11,457	10,878	5.3	11,001	4.1
Coke	5,485	5,540	-1.0	5,626	-2.5
Metals & Products	9,209	9,802	-6.0	9,741	-5.5
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	18,275	20,359	-10.2	18,004	1.5
Waste & Scrap Materials	8,721	9,699	-10.1	8,045	8.4
All Other Carloads	7,609	7,125	6.8	7,270	4.7
Total	**351,055**	**356,181**	**-1.4 %**	**343,374**	**2.2 %**

SUMMARY: CARLOADS ORIGINATED, INTERMODAL TRAFFIC AND ESTIMATED TON-MILES

TRAFFIC	WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 14, 1989			CUMULATIVE: 41 WEEKS ENDING OCTOBER 14, 1989		
	1989	1988	CHANGE	1989	1988	CHANGE
Carloads Originated	**351,055**	**356,181**	**-1.4 %**	**13,673,962**	**13,835,770**	**-1.2 %**
Intermodal Traffic Originated						
Trailers	71,732	70,801	1.3	2,706,945	2,732,741	-.9
Containers	53,343	48,318	10.4	1,961,877	1,796,831	9.2
Total	**125,075**	**119,119**	**5.0**	**4,668,822**	**4,529,572**	**3.1**
Estimated Ton-Miles						
Class I Railroads (Billions)	**20.2**	**20.1**	**.5 %**	**785.3**	**786.7**	**-.2 %**

Carloadings are estimated for: Week 41, 1989 - DRGW, SP & SSW; Week 40, 1989 - DRGW.

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